

districts as being too large and inconvenient as well as too populous, (many of the districts numbering from 100 to 140 children); and we have it in contemplation to re-district our county in the course of this summer and fall, and we are intending to bring the matter to the notice of our county court for their approval—not that we, the county superintendents, doubt of having a right to do so, but for courtesy only. For when the county was first districted the Court generously made an order to pay the expenses of the laying off, amounting to something over \$200; and at that time there was no school tax laid in this county, but as there is now, we do not expect the county to pay, and shall take the expenses from the school funds raised in the county. (Will this be right?) As to the form and size of the districts—on this subject I would be very glad of the opportunity to consult with you; but I will try to give you my views and plan as well as I can, which are to lay off the districts in regular hexagon form, or six equal angles containing 12 square miles, so that the centre of each district will only be 2 miles from each corner. Our present number of districts is 41: by this plan, it would be 56. Our county contains 667 square miles, and has within its limits a number of large creeks, which will necessarily cause derangement of the regular plan, and also add to the number of districts. This, sir, is the outline of the plan I had expected to district by; and if you can help me to an idea, I will be thankful to you for it. (See plan which was enclosed on page 93.)

You make some allusion to chairmen visiting schools, &c. I will take the liberty here to give you some account of the way and manner that I have proceeded. In the fall of 1854 I visited 17 of the districts, when the schools were going on, gave such advice as I thought necessary, and settled a number of difficulties that had arisen in the schools; took account of the number of children in attendance, scolded about the bad seats, open houses, smoky chimneys, &c., called on committee men and extorted promises to have repairs attended to, most of which I believe was done. The summer and fall of 1855, from family affliction, I attended only 2 or 3—noth-